Assistance to Karnataka for Science and Technology Projects

1048. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the proposals/projects sent by the Karnataka Government during 2001-2002 for financial assistance from Government in Science and Technology Department; and

(b) the amount sanctioned for these projects by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) The Department of Science and Technology has received the following three proposals from the Karnataka Government during 2001-2002 for financial assistance:

(i) Up-gradation of technology at Drought Monitoring Cell

(ii) Bangalore Science City

(iii) Construction of Vigyan Bhavan

(b) The proposal at (i) has been examined and evaluated by the department and has not been found suitable for financial support. The proposals at (ii) and (iii) above are required to go through a process of expert evaluation before being sanctioned.

ICOSER Centres in Karnataka

1049. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) at which places the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council's project on Integration of Computational Faculty for Scientific Research (ICOSER) are located in the country;

(b) whether any ICOSER centre has been located in Karnataka;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government would take steps to set up ICOSER centres in Karnataka, in view of the large number of universities, research institutes, Information Technology institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) They are located at seven Centres:

1. Punjab University, Chandigarh
2. Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Kolkata.
3. Institute of Physics, Bhubaneshwar
4. Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati
5. Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai
6. Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai
7. Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Only seven Centres have been identified. The project on Integration of Computational Faculty for Scientific Research (ICOSER) was implemented by Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council is mainly for an effective demonstration for others to follow the successful models.

Spreading science activities among children in NER

1050. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any effective measures to spread and expand science activities among children in the rural, hilly and backward areas of NER;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (c) The Government has initiated a number of measures to spread and expand science activities among the children in the country including the NER. For NER, a Regional Science